

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	September 18, 2003
				First Named Inventor	WHITSEL et al.
				Group Art Unit	n/a
				Examiner Name	n/a
				Attorney Docket Number	21012-0002
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. *	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ³ (if known)			
NAC	A	US-6,227,379 B1	05-08-2001	Nesseth	9/5
	B	US- 6,136,191	10-24-2000	Gribble et al.	
	C	US- 6,030,532	02-29-2000	Racine	
	D	US- 5,268,100	12-07-1993	Hartzell	
	E	US- 4,915,671	04-10-1990	Johnson	
	F	US- 4,896,835	01-30-1990	Fahrenheit	
	G	US- 4,666,602	05-18-1987	Hartzell	
	H	US- 4,485,013	11-27-1984	Cockman	
	I	US- 4,426,289	01-17-1984	Svehaug	
	J	US- 4,424,129	01-03-1984	Bunger	
	K	US- 4,376,044	03-08-1983	Ditzenberger	
	L	US- 4,298,473	11-03-1981	Wyman	
	M	US- 4,054,381	10-18-1977	Bernhard	
	N	US- 4,042,511	08-16-1977	Ginaven	
	O	US- 3,971,720	07-27-1976	Swanson et al.	
P	US- 3,959,135	05-25-1976	Shattock		
Q	US- 3,955,536	05-11-1976	Bunger		
R	US- 3,864,255	02-04-1975	Swanson		
S	US- RE-34,458	11-30-1993	Fahrenheit		
		US-			

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	<i>M. J. [Signature]</i>	Date Considered	8/5/05
-----------------------	--------------------------	--------------------	--------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.